



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JOPLIN MAN INDICTED FOR CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Joplin, Mo., man was indicted by a federal grand jury today for possessing and transporting child pornography.

Alvin L. Smith, 59, of Joplin, was charged in a three-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Smith** sent a computer file containing child pornography as an attachment to an e-mail message on June 11, 2003, in Jasper County.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Smith** was in possession of a computer hard drive and computer disks that contained child pornography on Oct. 1, 2003, in Jasper County.

Count Three of the federal indictment is a forfeiture count, which would require **Smith** to forfeit to the United States any matter containing child pornography, or any property used to commit the offense alleged in Counts One and Two, including a computer, hard drive, software and disks.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rose A. Barber. It was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Jasper County, Mo., Sheriff's Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow